

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Figures 7, 8, 9 and 10 have been amended to correct the spelling of “Deleted”. No new matter has been added.

Attachments: Annotated Drawing Sheets Showing Changes
Replacement Drawing Sheets

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

Amendments of a formal nature have been made to Figures 7-10. Annotated drawing sheets showing the changes and replacement drawing sheets are included in the Appendix hereto.

Claims 15-23 have been withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. To address this issues, claims 15 and 17 have been amended to depend from claim 1; claims 18 and 20 have been amended to depend from claim 9; claims 21 and 23 have been amended to depend from claim 11; and claims 16, 19 and 22 have been canceled. These amendments and cancelings are made with made without prejudice or disclaimer and Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the subject matter of claims 15-23 as presented in the response filed on December 12, 2005.

Claims 1, 9 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102 (e) as allegedly being "anticipated" by Norimoto (U.S. Patent No. 6,820,001). Claims 1-3 and 9-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Katayama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,324,471). While not acquiescing in this rejection, claims 1, 9, 11, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21 and 23 have been amended and claims 16, 19 and 22 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. The discussion below makes reference to the amended claims.

Claim 1 is directed to a navigation apparatus. As noted on page 2 of the office action, this claim requires a geographical area of the block map data surrounding a predetermined point on the set route is wider than the geographical range of the block map data surrounding another point on the set route. The claim further requires a transfer device that *"interrupts transferring set block map data when the portable recording medium is removed from the reading device during the route guidance and the route guidance device performs the route guidance based on the block map data stored in the memory device prior to the interrupting of the transferring"* and *"when the portable recording medium is mounted on the reading device again after the removing thereof, the transfer device transfers set block map data based on a route to the destination from the current position of the moving body acquired when the portable recording medium is mounted again."* Illustrative, non-limiting support for this feature is found, for example, in

Figure 10 and the accompanying description. Neither Norimoto nor Katayama et al. discloses a navigation apparatus with a transfer device that operates in the manner specified by the above-italicized claim language. Norimoto discloses a pre-reading process for reducing an amount of map data in a data buffer which does not involve, among other things, a transfer device as specified in claim 1. Katayama et al. discloses a process for retrieving map data based on a "retrieval width" and, like Norimoto, does not disclose the claimed transfer device.


Consequently, neither Norimoto nor Katayama et al. anticipates claim 1 or its dependent claims.

Claims 9 and 11 are directed to a method and a recording medium, respectively, that include subject matter similar to that specified by the above-italicized portion of claim 1. Consequently, these claims and their dependent claims are not anticipated by Normimoto or Katayama et al.

The pending claims are believed to be allowable for at least these reasons and favorable office action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 
Michael J. Shea
Reg. No. 34,725

MJS:mjs
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100



FIG. 7

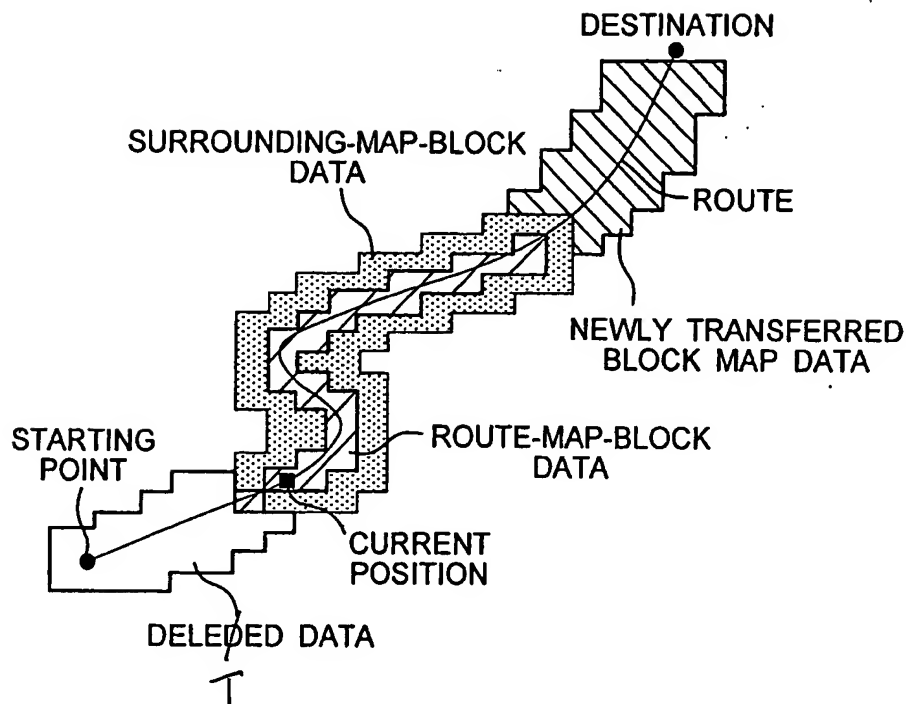


FIG. 8

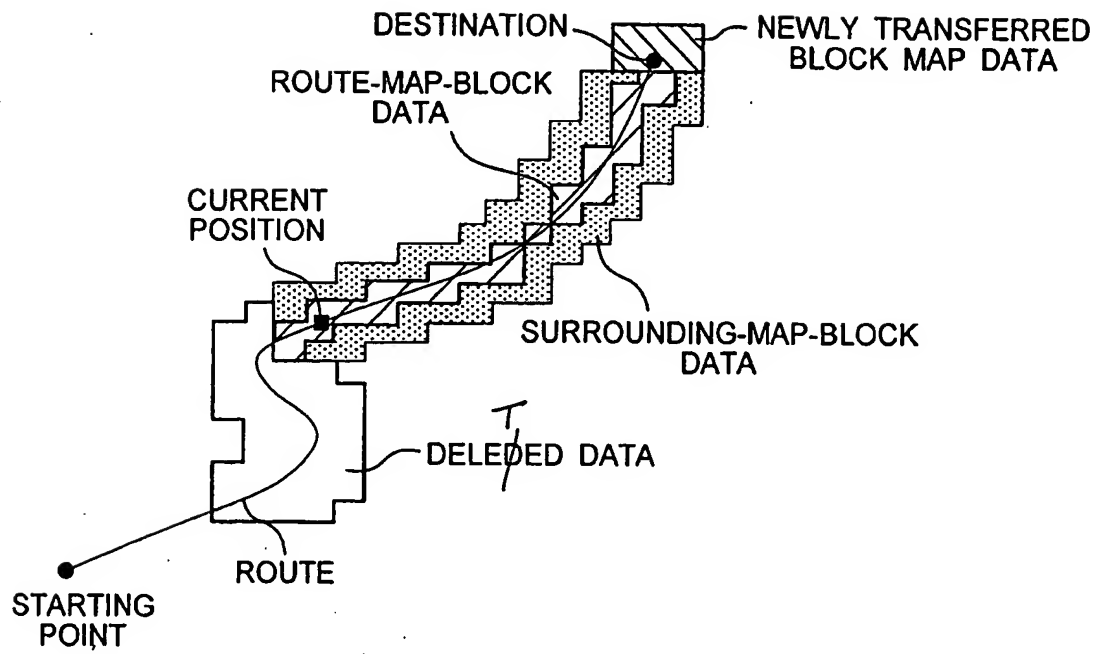


FIG. 9

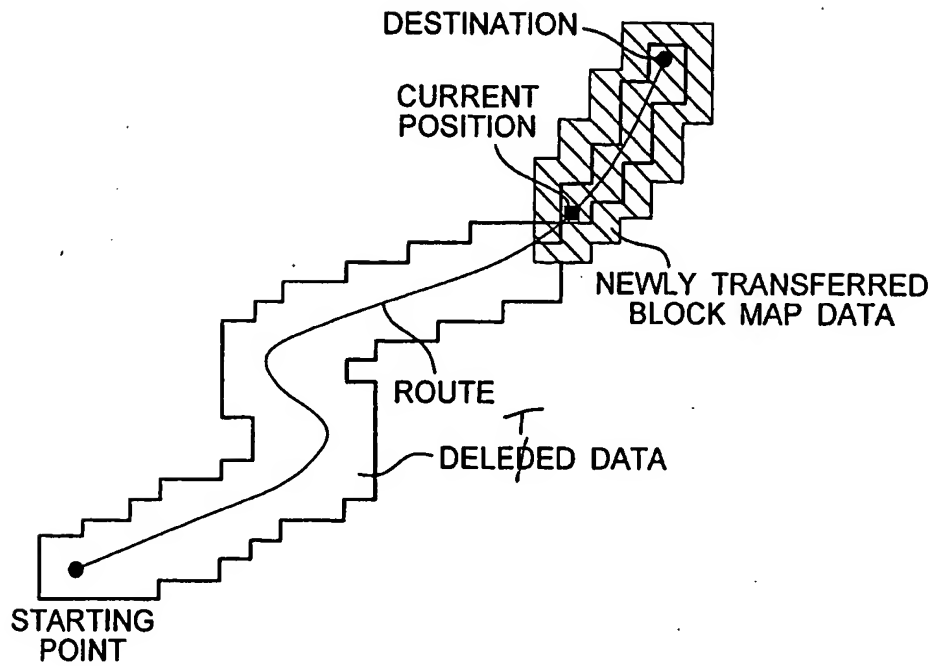


FIG. 10

